districts (now reorganised into 8 districts namely Bolangir, Kalahandi, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nawarangpur, Nuapada, Rayagada and Sonepur) and of Boudh district, and Integrated Tribal Development Authority (ITDA) Blocks of other districts of the State. In other district and in urban areas of the aforesaid districts foodgrains are being distributed at the rate of 3 Kgs. per month subject to 80% attendance in the previous month. Under the programme, Central Government is providing foodgrains free of cost of States/UTs. Transportation charges are also being reimbursed to States Agencies.

(c) The Government of India has launched the Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to pursue the goal of universal elementary education in a mission mode with the objective of getting all children in the 6-14 age group in school, Education Guarantee Centre, Alternate School, 'Back to School' camp by 2003 and to bridge all gender and social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010 etc.

Curtailing Expenditure on Higher/Technical Education

4754. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Universities are forced to curtail expenditure on higher and technical education due to financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether University Grants Commission has formulated any strategy for generation of own resources by the Universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (e) Availability of resources for higher education has not been

keeping pace with the projecte needs/requirements of the universities. During 10th Plan Department of Secondary & Higher Education projected a requirement of Rs. 31229.92 crores to the Planning Commission against which a sum of only Rs. 12750.00 crores has been made available.

In the background of the overall resource crunch, UGC had appointed a high-powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice K. Punnayya to recommend specific measures for mobilization of additional resources by the universities. The report, alongwith the views of UGC thereon, has been sent to the universities for appropriate action.

UGC has also introduced an incentive scheme for giving matching grants to the universities of the extent of 25% of the additional resources raised by them, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 25.00 lakhs.

Coastal Radio Station

†4755. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that 18 coastal radio stations have been established for the benefit of fishermen;

(b) if so, when and where these stations have been set up and the expenditure incurred on each of them;

(c) whether these radio stations have become operational;s

(d) if not, by when they would start functioning and the reasons for the delay;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the fishermen have not been provided walkie talkies as reported in Rashtriya Sahara of 25th March, 2002; and

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.